(ख) जी, हां।

(ग) यात्रा रियायत के प्रस्ताव में एअर इण्डिया और इण्डियन एयरलाइन्स से 50 प्रतिशत रियायत का अनुरोध किया गया है, ताकि भारत और विदेश के प्रतिनिधि ये फिल्में देख सकें।

Office of Director General of Technical Development

578. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to wind up DGTD (Directorate General of Technical Development);

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the stage of consideration of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Participation by department of Electronics in projects

579. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any projects with equity participation of the Department of Electronics;

(b) if so, what are the details; and

(c) whether there are any such proposals under consideration of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Small newspapers

580. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small newspapers being published in the country as on date;

(b) what is their total circulation; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to encourage the small newspapers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) On the basis of circulation disclosed by newspapers for the calendar year 1989, there are 3528 small newspapers.

(b) Their total average circulation is 2,23,41,000 per publishing day.

(c) Details of concessions/facilities available to small newspapers are given in the statement attached.

Statement

A—Concessions/facilities extended by RNI

1. The classification norms of the Small, Medium and Big newspapers have been revised with effect from 1.4.89. A newspaper/periodical with a circulation of upto 25,000 copies per publishing day is categorised as small. The limit hitherto was 15,000 copies per publishing day. The publication with a circulation of more than 25,000 copies and upto 75,000 copies per publishing day are now classified as Medium. Earlier the limits were more than 15,000 copies and upto 50,000 copies per publishing day. Similarly, the norm for a big newspaper is now a circulation more than 75,000 copies as against more than 50,000 copies per publishing day earlier.

2. Normally a newspaper must be registered with the RNI before it is allotted newsprint. A provision has been made from 1989-90 to release newsprint to newspapers even prior to their registration provided they get themselves registered with the RNI within three months of the date of the release of authorisation.

3. Regular newspapers with an annual entitlement of 200 MT of newsprint are given the option to take imported newsprint to 100 per cent extent.

(4) Small newspapers are fully exempted from customs duty on imported glazed newsprint which is chargeable at the rate of 550/- per MT from the big and Rs. 275/- per MT from the medium newspapers.

5 Newspapers with an annual entitlement of 50 MT or below are given the option to take the entire quantity in one instalment or more as against quarterly authorisations issued generally. The newspapers with an annual entitlement of more than 50 MT and upto 200 MT are released newsprint on half-yearly basis.

6. Normally, 25 per cent of imported newsprint is given from STC's buffer stock. Newspapers with an annual entitlement of 50 MT or below are given the option to take the entire quantity or part of it from buffer stock.

7. Normally the performance certificate of a newspaper is required to be signed by a Chartered Accountant. However, newspapers with a circulation of 2,000 copies or below are exempted from this requirement.

(B) *Facilities extended by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity.*

Under the existing advertising policy of the Government of India, the following facilities have been extended to language newspapers in general and 'Small and Medium' newspapers in particular:

(I) The general eligibility requirement of paid circulation is 1000 copies per issue. Relaxation is, however, permissible in the case of the following:—

(a) Specialised/Scientific/Technical journals with a paid circulation of 500 copies per issue;

(b) Sanskrit newspapers/journals and newspapers/journals published in backward, border or remote areas or in tribal languages or primarily meant for tribal readers with a minimum paid circulation of 500 copies per issue.

(II) In the matter of print area also relaxation is permissible to newspapers/journals published in tribal language or primarily meant for tribal readership.

(III) Newspapers/journals with paid circulation upto 2000 copies are exempted from the requirement of submitting certificate or circulation from Chartered Accountant etc.

(IV) There is parity of rates in the matter of fixing advertisement rates i.e. no discrimination is made between the English newspapers and language newspapers. However, language papers/periodicals upto a circulation of 10,000 copies enjoy a high basis rate than their counterparts in English. A large number of small papers/periodicals borne on DAVP Media List fall in this category.

(C) *Facilities extended by Press Information Bureau*

Newspapers: The Press Information Bureau (PIB), in pursuance of its policy of providing more and more service to the small and medium newspapers, gives a number of special facilities to them. Besides making available its general services such as news services and features, it has been supplying other types of news services such as science digests, agriculture news letters (Krishi Patrika), Ebonoid blocks, charbas (for Urdu Papers only) and illustrated photo features.

News Services: A number of services tailored to the needs of small papers have been introduced. In-depth stories written in simple and capsule form covering developments in various spheres such as science, economic growth, agriculture, health and family welfare are prepared and supplied to them in all major languages of the country. A weekly news digest Gramin Patra Seva primarily meant for small papers was introduced in Hindi in 1977.

Photo Services: The Bureau also supplies illustrated photo features obonoid blocks to small papers. The charba services, which consist of Zink block for

use in Urdu Litho Print, have become quite popular.

Special Services Cell: The Bureau has set up a special service Cell at the headquarters with representatives in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The Cell is entrusted with the task of preparing field based development stories and making them available to the language newspapers. The emphasis is on providing locally relevant photographs, cartograph and abonoid blocks.

Press Parties: Organising press parties to various Central Government projects is another important activity of the Bureau which enables representatives of the press to have first hand knowledge of the developmental activity going on in different parts of the country. Representatives of different papers are taken at frequent intervals to selected projects for this type of special study. Language and small and medium papers get representation in these conducted tours.

Accreditation: Accreditation rules have been liberalised to extend greater facilities to small and medium papers. As per rules, only newspapers with a circulation of over 5,000 copies are eligible for accreditation. In order, however, to assist the smaller papers, this condition has been relaxed and now two or more small newspapers can jointly seek accreditation for a common correspondent. The rules also provide that special consideration may be shown to newspapers devoted to science and technology and to those published from hilly or backward areas, or from regions under-developed in terms of information and communication. The Bureau's mailing list now contains a large number of small and medium newspapers as well as correspondents accredited on their behalf.

Cases pending with the Central Administrative Tribunal

581. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending with the Central Administrative Tribunal as quite popular.

(b) since when these cases have been pending; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite the working of Central Administrative Tribunal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The number of cases (excluding Misc. Petitions) pending with the Central Administrative Tribunal as on 31-7-91 is 37859. The year-wise pendency of 34949 cases is as under :

Year	Pending cases
1986	783
1987	2696
1988	5059
1989	6781
1990	9999
1991	9631

Besides these, 2910 cases which stood transfered from various courts to the Tribunal since its inception till 31-7-91 are also pending.

(c) The steps proposed to be taken to improve the working of the Tribunal are improvement in the procedure for disposal, filling up the existing vacancies of Vice-Chairman and Members in the various benches of CAT, increase in the number of courts in a few benches already set up, etc.

International Film Festivals

582. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are organising any International Film Festivals during